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Message Text

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----------119399 112228Z /64
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERN
INFO AMCONSUL ZURICH

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, OVIP (SCHLESIGNER, JAMES), SZ

SUBJECT: SWISS ENERGY CONFERENCE INVITATION TO DOE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER

1. DOE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS IN RESPONDING TO THE FOLLOWING DECEMBER 22, 1977 LETTER ADDRESSED TO SECRETARY SCHLESINGER BY THE ENERGIEFORUM SCHWEIZ, A ZURICH-BASED GROUP, WHICH REQUESTS THAT THE SECRETARY ADDRESS A MEETING TO BE HELD ON APRIL 24 ON THE THEME OF ENERGY:

BEGIN TEXT:" POSTFACH 119, 3000 BERN 15, TELEFON 031-448711
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MR. JAMES R. SCHLESINGER, MINISTER, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20461. DEAR SIR:
THE ENERGY CONFERENCE SWITZERLAND IN ZURICH HAS ORGANIZED AN IMPORTANT MEETING FOR THE 24TH APRIL 1978 TO DISCUSS
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THE THEME "ENERGY - A WORLDWIDE PROBLEM OF THE FUTURE". THE LEADERS OF SWISS POLITICS,OF THE ECONOMY AND THE MEDIA HAVE ALL BEEN INVITED. THE MEETING WAS PLANNED TO INFORM THESE LEADERS IN OPINION HOW THIS QUESTION OF ENERGY IS ATTACKED IN OTHER IMPORTANT AREAS OF THE WORLD. THE CONFERENCE WILL ALSO BE AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR THE POPULATION IN VIEW OF THE FORTHCOMING SWISS POP-

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ULAR VOTE ON ATOMIC ENERGY WHICH IS TO TAKE PLACE TOWARDS

THE END OF 1978.

"WE COME TO ASK YOU TO CONSIDER YOUR ADDRESSING THIS MEETING FOR SOME 45 TO 50 MINUTES DESCRIBING ENERGY POLICIES THAT YOUR COUNTRY HAS ADOPTED.

"THE ENERGY CONFERENCE OF SWITZERLAND CONSISTS OF ABOUT HALF THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTIES AND ECONOMIC ASSOCIATIONS OF THE COUNTRY. WE ALSO WORK HAND IN HAND WITH OUR GOVERNMENT. FOR THIS REASON OUR MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND PRESIDENT OF SWITZERLAND, MR. RITSCHARD, HAS ACCEPTED TO PRESIDE OVER THE MEETING OF THE 24TH APRIL AND CLOSE IT WITH HIS ADDRESS TO EXPLAIN THE OFFICIAL SWISS STANDPOINT ON THE QUESTION OF ENERGY.

"THE POPULAR VOTE CONCERNING THE ATOMIC ENERGY IN SWITZERLAND WILL BE THE ONLY ONE TO TAKE PLACE IN EUROPE TO DECIDE ON THESE CONTROVERSIAL QUESTIONS AND BECOMES THEREFORE MOST IMPORTANT. ALL GOVERNMENTS OF THE COUNTRIES WHERE DISCUSSIONS ON ATOMIC ENERGY TAKE PLACE WILL FOLLOW THE OUTCOME OF THIS VOTE WITH GREAT INTEREST.

"WE BELIEVE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS ESTABLISHED ATOMIC
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ENERGY POLICIES AND PLANS, THAT WOULD CULMINATE IN A GLOBAL ENERGY CONCEPT. IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT THAT THE SWISS OPINION LEADERS WOULD CLEARLY UNDERSTAND YOUR POSITION. BY THE SAME MAIL WE HAVE INVITED A REPRESENT-ATIVE EACH FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY IN PARIS, THE OPEC COUNTRIES, THE USSR, AND GERMANY.

"WE WOULD ASK YOU TO KINDLY CONFIRM YOUR ACCEPTANCE IN THE SHORTEST DELAY. THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE, WE ASSURE YOU OF OUR HIGHEST ESTEEM, DEAR SIR, AND REMAIN YOURS SINCERELY, ENERGIEFORUM SCHWEIZ, THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, PETER SCHINDLER" END TEXT

2. ANY INFORMATION WHICH THE EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE ON ENERGIEFORUM SCHWEIZ AND ANY COMMENTS ON THIS INVITATION WOULD BE HELPFUL. VANCE

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